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House Committee on Education
Representative Roy Takumi, Chair
Representative Takashi Ohno, Vice Chair

February 2, 2014

Dear Chair Takumi, Vice Chair Ohno and Committee Members:

This testimony is submitted in support for HB 11, which authorizes an additional per year bonus for teachers who maintain current board certification and teach at schools in a focus, priority or superintendent's zone under the National Board Certification Incentive Program.

The Hui for Excellence in Education (HE'E) is a diverse coalition of over 40 parent and community organizations dedicated to improving student achievement by increasing family and community engagement and partnerships in our schools. Our member list is attached.

The Coalition understands that teacher quality is considered to be one of the most influential factors in student achievement. National board certification is rigorous and allows teachers to analyze and improve their practice. We believe it is important to continue to reward teachers who voluntarily undergo this process. The bill specifies that an additional bonus be awarded to national board certified teachers at schools in a focus, priority or superintendent's zone. We support this incentive as national board certified teachers can add value to these schools.

Thank you for the opportunity to testify. Our support of this bill represents a 75% consensus or more of our membership.

Sincerely,

Cheri Nakamura
HE'E Coalition Director

Academy 21

After-School All-Stars Hawaii

Alliance for Place Based Learning

*Castle Complex Community Council

*Castle-Kahuku Principal and CAS

Center for Civic Education

Coalition for Children with Special Needs

*Faith Action for Community Equity

Fresh Leadership LLC

Girl Scouts Hawaii

*Good Beginnings Alliance

Harold K.L. Castle Foundation

*Hawaii Appleseed Center for Law and Economic Justice

Hawai'i Athletic League of Scholars

*Hawai'i Charter School Network

*Hawai'i Nutrition and Physical Activity Coalition

*Hawaii State PTSA

Hawai'i State Student Council

Hawai'i State Teachers Association

Hawai'i P-20

Hawai'i 3Rs

Head Start Collaboration Office

It's All About Kids

*INPEACE

Joint Venture Education Forum

Junior Achievement of Hawaii

*Kaho'omiki

Kamehameha Schools

Kanu Hawai'i

*Kaua'i Ho'okele Council

Keiki to Career Kaua'i

Kupu A'e

*Leaders for the Next Generation

Learning First

McREL's Pacific Center for Changing the Odds

Our Public School

*Pacific Resources for Education and Learning

*Parents and Children Together

*Parents for Public Schools Hawai'i

Punahou School PUEO Program

Teach for America

The Learning Coalition

US PACOM

University of Hawai'i College of Education

YMCA of Honolulu

Voting Members () Voting member organizations vote on action items while individual and non-voting participants may collaborate on all efforts within the coalition.*



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TESTIMONY FOR HOUSE BILL 11, RELATING TO TEACHERS

House Committee on Education

Hon. Roy M. Takumi, Chair

Hon. Takashi Ohno, Vice Chair

Monday, February 2, 2015, 2:00 PM

State Capitol, Conference Room 309

Honorable Chair Takumi and committee members:

I am Kris Coffield, representing IMUAlliance, a nonpartisan political advocacy organization that currently boasts over 175 local members. On behalf of our members, we offer this testimony in support of House Bill 11, relating to teachers.

This bill amends HRS §302A-706 to authorize, under the Teacher National Board Certification Incentive Program, an additional \$5,000 per year bonus for teachers who maintain current national board certification and teach at a school in a Focus, Priority or Superintendent's Zone. Priority and Superintendent's Zone schools are those falling in the two lowest-performing categories under the Department of Education's Strive HI Performance System, in which schools earn points based on achievement, growth, readiness, and achievement gap metrics. Priority schools demonstrate persistently low achievement or graduation rates, or are participating in the School Improvement Grants Program. Superintendent's Zone schools are a subset of Priority schools showing a persistent inability to meet performance goals over time. Together these schools account for the bottom 5 percent of Hawaii's schools with regard to academic achievement. Focus schools comprise approximately 10 percent of underperforming schools with low achievement, low graduation rates, or large intraschool achievement gaps. While not struggling as badly as their Priority or Superintendent's Zone peers, these schools, too, face teacher recruitment and retention problems owing to chronic resource shortages, demographic inequalities, and achievement disparities. Without the guarantee of quality instruction, the incremental progress made by these schools could be jeopardized. It is, therefore, incumbent upon policymakers to take steps to ensure that students in such schools are taught by highly motivated, highly qualified, and highly compensated professionals.

Mahalo for the opportunity to testify in support of this bill.

Sincerely,
Kris Coffield
Legislative Director
IMUAlliance

To: Chairperson Roy Takumi
Vice Chairperson Takashi Ohno
Members of the House Committee on Education

From: Corey Rosenlee

Subject: Support for HB11 RELATING TO EDUCATION

I am a Nationally Board Certified teacher from Campbell High and I am supporting HB11. Studies show the best way to improve education is to have a qualified teacher in the classroom. “In a study by Charlotte-Mecklenburg Schools, NBCTs were found to be ‘significantly more effective’ than their non-Board-certified peers in teaching Algebra II, Biology, Civics and Economics, Chemistry and Geometry, as measured by student performance on end-of-course tests” (Salvador & Baxter, 2010). Furthermore, “The positive impact of having a National Board Certified Teacher is even greater for minority and low-income students” (Cavalluzzo, 2004; Goldhaber & Anthony, 2007). In order to decrease income inequality an incentive program to encourage top teachers to teach in our high poverty schools is a good start.

I do suggest an amendment to this bill where the criteria in deciding which teachers get bonus pay should be based on which schools are Title 1 schools. This would be a more stable measure than the current method which is based on focus, priority, in a superintendent’s zone, a school with a high turnover rate, or a hard-to-fill school. The problem with these designations is there is confusing for teachers to know which schools apply, and if there is confusion teachers won’t apply to these schools negating the purpose of this bill. Title 1 (there are other criteria that can apply) status is already used as a lure for tuition reimbursements of up to \$17,500 for teachers who teach in these districts for up to five years. Title 1 status is more stable, much easier for teachers to identify, and won’t penalize a nationally board certified teacher from moving or staying at a school when a school designation changes.

LATE

HB11

Submitted on: 2/2/2015

Testimony for EDN on Feb 2, 2015 14:00PM in Conference Room 309

| Submitted By | Organization | Testifier Position | Present at Hearing |
|--------------|-----------------------------------|--------------------|--------------------|
| Tanya Abalos | Hawaii State Teachers Association | Support | No |

Comments:

Please note that testimony submitted less than 24 hours prior to the hearing, improperly identified, or directed to the incorrect office, may not be posted online or distributed to the committee prior to the convening of the public hearing.

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